AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A device for positioning a total knee prosthesis, comprising:

a tensioning component ~~(1)~~ having

- a tensioning component plate ~~(2)~~ configured to be supported on a tibial cut surface,

- sliding means ~~(3)~~ extending from said tensioning component plate ~~(2)~~,

- a slide ~~(5)~~ displaceable on the sliding means ~~(3)~~ in a direction substantially perpendicular relative to the tensioning component plate ~~(2)~~ and having means ~~(6, 11)~~ for being temporarily fixedly joined to an ancillary component ~~(20)~~,

[[the]] - an ancillary component ~~(20)~~ i) comprising a tibial plate ~~(21)~~ and a centro-medullary rod ~~(22)~~ extending from the tibial plate ~~(21)~~, and ii) configured to receive adjusting means of variable thicknesses, the adjusting means positioned at the end of a femur when a knee is in a state of flexion at approximately 90°, to allow spacing in an extended state of an articulation to be obtained,

- a motor means ~~(8, 10)~~ for displacing the slide ~~(5)~~ and thereby tensioning the knee by way of the tensioning component plate ~~(2)~~ pressed on the tibial cut and the ancillary component ~~(20)~~ fixedly joined to the slide ~~(5)~~,

- a drilling guide ~~(30)~~ mounted on the sliding means ~~(3)~~ and having drilled holes ~~(37)~~ for positioning a cutting block on the femur to allow posterior femoral cuts to be brought about,

the drilling guide ~~(30)~~ configured to receive means for palpating an anterior portion of the femur for positioning the drilling guide ~~(30)~~ in alignment with the anterior portion,

- reference means ~~(EF)~~ for determining a position of the slide ~~(5)~~ and/or the drilling guide ~~(30)~~ relative to the tensioning component plate ~~(2)~~ and therefore determine an interarticular space available in the state of flexion, and

- a size estimation component ~~(40)~~ for palpating an anterior end of the femur, the size estimation component having a member ~~(41)~~ configured to slide on the sliding means ~~(3)~~, the member ~~(41)~~ having a transverse palpating arm ~~(43)~~ articulated about a shaft ~~(44)~~ parallel with a sliding axis of the member on the sliding means,

the device thus allowing either a position of a distal femoral cutting plane to be determined by determining a difference between a spacing in a state of extension and a space in the state of flexion, or a position of a posterior femoral cutting plane to be determined in order to obtain approximate

equality between the spacing in the state of extension and the space in the state of flexion.

2. (cancelled).

3. (currently amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein [[the]] a dimension of the tensioning component plate ~~(2)~~ is such that a femoral end can be received between the tensioning component plate and the size estimation component ~~(40)~~, in the manner of a calliper rule.

4. (currently amended) The device according to claim 1, further comprising:

a distal cutting guide support ~~(50)~~ having i) a member (51) configured to slide on the sliding means ~~(3)~~ and an arm ~~(54)~~ extending from said member ~~(51)~~ which extends parallel with [[the]] an axis of the knee in the state of flexion, and ii) means for receiving and for fixing the distal cutting guide at a precise location, the precise location determined by a calculation of the difference between the spacing in the state of extension and the space in the state of flexion.

5. (currently amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein the slide ~~(5)~~ is configured to be displaced by means of

an assembly comprising a screw ~~(8)~~ and a nut ~~(10)~~ to slide the slide ~~(5)~~ and place the knee in a state of tension.

6. (currently amended) The device according to claim 5, wherein the sliding means ~~(3)~~ have an internal runner and the slide ~~(5)~~ is guided in the internal runner, and

the sliding means have an outer surface for guiding at least the drilling guide ~~(30)~~, the slide having a portion which allows the drilling guide to be moved.

7. (currently amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein the drilling guide ~~(30)~~ is configured to receive a palpating arm configured to press on [[the]] an anterior surface of the femoral end to limit the insertion of the drilling guide on a guiding means in order to optimise a drilling position.

8. (currently amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein the slide ~~(5)~~ has

i) reliefs ~~(11)~~ for precise positioning, relative to the slide, of the tibial plate ~~(21)~~ of the ancillary component ~~(20)~~, and

ii) a rapid fixing means ~~(6)~~ for temporarily fixedly joining the tibial plate ~~(21)~~ to the slide ~~(5)~~.

9-18. (cancelled).

19. (new) A device for positioning a total knee prosthesis, comprising:

a medullary rod having a proximal end, the medullary rod configured to be introduced into a femoral medullary canal;

a rod base attached to the proximal end of the medullary rod, the rod base having i) a face configured to contact the femoral condyles when the medullary rod is disposed within the femoral medullary canal, and ii) a base mounting element;

a tibial plate having a lowermost surface configured to be supported on an upper surface of a tibial cut; and

a displacement element comprising a distal end extending from the tibial plate and being attachable to the base mounting element such that the medullary rod is approximately parallel to the upper surface of the tibial plate,

wherein the displacement element is operable to displace the tibial plate and the upper surface of the tibia with respect to the rod base.

20. (new) The device of claim 19, wherein,

the rod base is a plate with a first surface and a second surface opposite the first surface, the second surface being generally planar,

the base mounting element is an oblong passage with a central hole and diametrically opposed notches,

the mounting element is a bayonet element for engagement with the oblong passage,

the tibial plate is generally planar, and

the displacement element is aligned with a tibial axis.

21. (new) The device of claim 20, wherein,

the displacement element comprises i) a slide housing extending from the upper surface of the tibial plate, and ii) a slide displaceable on the slide housing, the slide housing and the slide positioned over the tibial plate,

the bayonet element is attached to the slide, and

the rod base, when mounted on the slide, is positioned in approximately perpendicular with the upper surface of the tibial plate.

22. (new) The device of claim 19, wherein,

the displacement element comprises i) a slide housing extending from the upper surface of the tibial plate, and ii) a slide displaceable on the slide housing,

the rod base mounts to the slide, and

the rod base, when mounted on the slide, is positioned approximately perpendicular with the upper surface of the tibial plate.

23. (new) A device for displacing a tibia and a femur, the tibia having a tibial axis and a cut proximal surface, and the femur having a femoral medullary canal, comprising:

an ancillary component comprising a medullary rod and an attachment part attached at a proximal end of the medullary rod, the medullary rod configured to be introduced into the femoral medullary canal;

a tensioning device comprising:

i) a tibial plate configured to be supported on an uppermost surface of the cut tibia,

ii) a first component that is attached at one end to the tibial plate, and

iii) a second component that is attached to the attachment part of the ancillary component,

wherein, the first component and the second component are movable with respect to one another so as to displace the connecting element and the tibial plate with respect to each other between i) a first position wherein the medullary rod and tibial plate are separated by a first distance as measured along the tibial axis, and ii) a second position wherein the medullary rod and tibial plate are separated by a second distance as measured along the tibial axis, the second distance being greater than the first distance.

24. (new) The device of claim 23, wherein,

the attachment part comprises an oblong passage with a central hole and diametrically opposed notches,

the tibial plate is generally planar with the lowermost planar surface configured to be supported on a tibial cut with a lowermost surface of the displacement component bearing against the tibial cut, and

the displacement element is vertically aligned with a tibial axis.

25. (new) The device of claim 23, wherein,

the attachment part comprises a rod plate,

the tibial plate is configured to be supported on the uppermost surface of the tibial cut extending completely across the tibia with a lowermost surface of the displacement component bearing against the tibial cut with the displacement component being completely vertically above the tibia using an upper surface of the tibial plate located opposite the lower surface as a horizontal reference, and

the displacement element engages with the rod plate with the rod plate being approximately 90 degrees to the tibial plate.

26. (new) The device of claim 23, wherein,

the first component is comprises a slide housing and the second component is a slide, the slide being configured to slide with respect to the slide housing.